

# CHURCH NEWS

## FROM THE NORTHERN COUNTRIES

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### DENMARK

#### Towards Unity in the Evangelical Alliance?

When the World Evangelical Fellowship was founded in 1953 through a union of the American National Association of Evangelicals and the Evangelical Alliance's organizations in various countries there were several branches of the Evangelical Alliance that did not feel that they could join. This was for instance true of several branches on the European continent, which instead united to form "Europe's Evangelical Alliance". The reason why these branches did not wish to join the World Evangelical Fellowship was that they did not share the narrow theological views and the negative attitude towards the World Council of Churches which were voiced not least by the Americans.

Representatives from the Evangelical Alliance in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Sweden, Norway and Denmark as well as specially invited participants from Yugoslavia and Hungary recently assembled in Copenhagen for Europe's Evangelical Alliance's Conference in which representatives from the Evangelical Alliance in England, which is affiliated to the World Evangelical Fellowship, also took part. According to the paper issued by Denmark's Evangelical Alliance discussions at the conference showed plainly that the differences in attitude and theological views that caused the break in 1953 are not so prominent to-day. The article claims that much misunderstanding has been caused by different interpretations of the same words and phrases, and that the views most objectionable to the European Evangelical Alliances have not been given statute form in the World Evangelical Fellowship. And within this organization there are many who are actively connected with the World Council of Churches. In reality it could be ascertained that there were no great differences between the World Evangelical Fellowship and Europe's Evangelical Alliance, and the paper goes on to say that a possibility has thus been opened, if not for joining the two organizations, at least for fellowship and co-operation between "all Christians who want the revival and who lay the chief emphasis on prayer and personal missionizing effort as the foundation of Christian fellowship".

At the Conference Rev. Zilz, Germany, was re-elected chairman of the Europe's Evangelical Alliance. As vice-presidents were elected Rev. G. Bartholdy, Denmark, and Rev. Huber, Switzerland. Rev. Thorn, Denmark, was elected Secretary General.

# CHURCH NEWS

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THE CHURCH OF THE FUTURE

When the first church was founded, it was a small group of people who gathered together to worship God. They were simple people, but they were sincere. They believed in the teachings of Jesus Christ, and they wanted to live by those teachings. They were not interested in money or power, but only in the love of God and their fellow men. They were a true church, and their example is one that we should all follow.

The church of the future will be a church that is true to the teachings of Jesus Christ. It will be a church that is not interested in money or power, but only in the love of God and our fellow men. It will be a church that is simple and sincere, and that is true to the teachings of Jesus Christ. It will be a church that is not interested in the world, but only in the kingdom of God. It will be a church that is not interested in the future, but only in the present. It will be a church that is not interested in the past, but only in the future. It will be a church that is not interested in the world, but only in the kingdom of God. It will be a church that is not interested in the future, but only in the present. It will be a church that is not interested in the past, but only in the future.

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Theological Debate in Denmark's Folketing (Parliament).

Late in October an interesting theological and canonical debate took place in the Danish Folketing, where among other things the relation between law and gospel, between faith and good works was discussed. The occasion was a question put to the Minister of Church Affairs, Mrs. Bodil Koch, as to how far a bishop in the Danish Lutheran National Church has the right to intervene against a clergyman whose preaching seems to him to be essentially contrary to the confession of the Church.

A clergyman on the island of Lolland, Rev. Poul Kalmeyer, has published a book "Religion og moral" opposing the idea of Jesus' vicarious suffering on the grounds that it is contrary to Jesus' own teaching and leaves no room for any real moral effort. Salvation through grace by faith alone, which St. Paul and Luther emphasize so strongly, is described in the book as "wrong", "irresponsible", and "nothing short of a crime". "We are saved by achieving real ethical quality", writes Rev. Kalmeyer.

After having read the book, the bishop of the diocese, the Rt. Rev. Halfdan Høgsbro corresponded with Kalmeyer and pointed out to him the conflict between his views and the Church's symbolic books. The bishop called upon him to revoke what he had written if he had changed his views on central points, and if not, either to resign his office or to ask for leave so that he could reconsider his position.

These requests which were formulated as questions occasioned a lively discussion in the press as to the bishop's right to intervene against clergymen in matters of doctrine, and finally the question was also raised in the Folketing, which is the legislative organ for the National Church.

In her reply the Minister of Church Affairs emphasized that according to the Constitution the National Church is Lutheran and hence does not stand for any doctrine whatsoever. A bishop has both the right and the duty to practise surveillance and to refute views which do not belong in the National Church. To be sure, the clergy are not bound to the letter of the symbolic books, but there must be some limit to the liberty of preaching set by the spirit of the symbolic books, though it is not possible to define this precisely. If the bishop finds that the limit has been overstepped by a clergyman, and should this clergyman insist upon his views, the bishop can appoint a consistory court to judge the case, and he has likewise the right to recommend the removal of the clergyman after which the Ministry, the bishop, the rural dean, and the vestry each must take their share of the responsibility for the decision.

During the discussion the spokesmen of the various parties dealt not only with the canonical questions, but also with the dogmatic problem, thus giving rise to a unique debate in the country's highest political assembly.

Bishop Høgsbro has not instituted proceedings against Rev. Kalmeyer, who still holds his office. The other bishops have declared their agreement with Bishop Høgsbro in his evaluation of the controversial book.

DECLARATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN

That in order to insure the full participation of women in the nation's life, and to secure for them the same rights and opportunities as are enjoyed by men, it is the policy of the National Association of Women to advocate the passage of legislation which shall secure for women the same rights and opportunities as are enjoyed by men.

That the National Association of Women is opposed to any legislation which shall discriminate against women on the basis of sex, and which shall deprive them of the same rights and opportunities as are enjoyed by men.

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In a leading article the day after the debate in the Folketing "Kristeligt Dagblad" expressed its satisfaction with the course the discussion had taken and not least with the Minister's answer. The article ended: "The distinctive character of the Church as being something different from and more than a mere government department has been safeguarded. And there is reason to be thankful for this."

#### Stay at Folk High-School as Preparation for the University?

A Bill may shortly be expected proposing that a stay at a folk high-school be an optional preparation for studying at the Universities of Copenhagen and Århus.

Until now all students have had to pass a common examination in philosophy as an introduction to their vocational study, but the new bill gives the students the right to choose whether they wish to take "filosofikum" according to the former arrangement, or they will obtain a corresponding amount of knowledge through a four months stay at a Danish folk high-school. Here they will have to put in at least 90 hours of work in study groups dealing with such subjects as philosophy, history of civilization, and civics, while at the same time attending the general courses given at the folk high-school. Three folk high-schools have been chosen to provide such education, among these the well-known folk high-school at Askov.

### FINLAND

#### Clerical Conferences Make Preparations for Church Synod Next Year.

Clerical conferences were held in all the Finnish dioceses last month to deal with a number of the matters to be put before the Church Synod next autumn.

The new draft of a church manual (the rituals for services and church ceremonies) was given a qualified reception. In Oulu (Uleåborg) diocese it was entirely rejected, and several other dioceses suggested the appointment of a committee to propose an alternative draft.

Nor was the draft of a new church law received without criticism. Only Oulu (Uleåborg) diocese approved the draft in the proposed form, while the clergy of the other dioceses desired certain changes.

As stated in detail in CN No. 27 a proposal will be put forward at the Church Synod next year regarding the creation of a special post for women theologians in the service of the Church. The duties would include parochial work of various kinds, but especially the care of souls among women and young girls. The women theologians (vicars or curates) would not be placed on an equal footing with the clergy and would therefore not generally have the right to administer the sacraments, but in cases where women theologians were serving hospitals or prisons the chapter could empower them to give communion to persons who are unable to take part in ordinary church services.

- This proposal was approved by the clerical conferences in six dioceses, whereas Oulu (Uleåborg) diocese opposed it. A small number of clergymen were in favour of permitting women to become ordinary ministers in the church.



A proposal from the Church Law Committee regarding the introduction of a special ritual for the marriage of divorcees (see CN No. 29) was approved in three dioceses, whereas Turku (Åbo) diocese did not want any such ritual. The clerical conference in Tampere (Tammerfors) wanted to introduce a paragraph to establish that clergymen cannot be punished for refusing to marry divorced persons. (According to present legislation a clergyman in the Finnish National Church has no right to refuse to perform such a marriage.)

The clerical conference in the Finland-Swedish diocese further advocated the composition of a special formula to be used at the anointing of sick persons in accordance with James 5:14. The suggestion was put forward from High Church and pietistic circles, but won a large majority at the conference.

"For the Advancement of Sound Morals in our Public Life."

Shortly after the city court of Oslo - as mentioned in CN No. 31 - had declared Agnar Mykle's book "Sangen om den røde rubin" pornographical and hence caused the sale of the book to be stopped, the book was also banned in Finland. This was not the result of a Finnish court decision, but was due to a decision of the acting Minister of Justice based on a unanimous resolution of the government.

The confiscation of the book gave rise to indignant protests in part of the press where the decision was described as a violation of the liberty of speech and the liberty of the press and a symptom of unsound Puritanism. As a contribution to the discussion a number of well-known Christian men headed by Archbishop Ilmari Salomies published a proclamation under the title: "For the Advancement of Sound Morals in our Public Life". The proclamation was also signed by Bishop Martti Simojoki and the professors of theology J.E. Alanen, Mikko Juva and Osmo Tiililä. The proclamation reads as follows:

"We are deeply shaken to note the arrogant and irresponsible way in which a large portion of our daily press has reacted to the decision to confiscate Mykle's book. It is our conviction that this decision is sound and justifiable. There is no disagreement as to the feeling that freedom of speech belongs to the inalienable values of democratic society, but society must also have the right to protect its life when the moral values on which it rests are trampled under foot and the limits prescribed by decency are overstepped. This has certainly happened in Mykle's book.

At a time when the instability of moral values is our great common misfortune we give our full approval to the decision made by the Ministry of Justice in the wish to make an effort to preserve the sound moral life of our people and protect the rising generation. We trust that this decision will cleanse the air and thus have a beneficial effect on our social life."

86 Million Marks to Christian Social Work.

The annual subscription raised by the Finnish Lutheran Church for the Church's social work has this year reached the sum of 85,9 million Finnish marks. The money raised by subscription lists over the whole country amounts to 58,2 million marks, which is 8 million marks more than in 1955, the previous record. The rest was re-

A proposal to amend the Constitution of the United States to provide for a national day of mourning for the victims of the September 11 attacks was introduced in the House of Representatives on September 11, 2001. The proposal was introduced by Representative James Walsh (D-NY) and was sponsored by the House of Representatives Committee on Education and the Labor Force. The proposal was passed by the House of Representatives on September 11, 2001, and was signed into law by President George W. Bush on September 11, 2001.

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ceived in the form of large gifts. 14.137 persons in all have served as collectors, and the amount has been given by in all 330.825 persons, which means that on an average every third home in Finland has contributed to the subscription.

In accordance with tradition Finland's President was again this year patron of the subscription.

#### The Finnish Archbishop's Words in Memory of Jean Sibelius.

At the funeral from Storkyrkan in Helsinki (Helsingfors) of the world-famous composer Jean Sibelius the Finnish Archbishop Ilmari Salomies said in his speech:

"While humbly praising the Almighty for His works of creation now that we are assembled around the earthly remains of this master of music we thank God for what He gave us through him. We voice our gratitude for the beauty, truth and goodness he was permitted to give us, for the faith which has given our people strength to hold out in times of difficulty, for the power with which the stream of music produced by the master's spirit forces a passage for the questing spirit of man through storm, fear, and confusion to clarity, victory and peace.

How greatly we need this great gift of life now that the world horizon is darkened, and the human spirit's meanness and pettiness in our own country threatens to destroy that which has been built up from generation to generation and for which great sacrifices have been made."

#### Finland Sends Out Invitations to The Next Lutheran World Assembly.

The Finnish National Committee of the Lutheran World Assembly has suggested that the next Lutheran World Assembly in 1962 be held in Finland. A tentative invitation was already extended at the Assembly last summer in Minneapolis, but now the National Committee has officially laid the suggestion before the enlarged bishops' conference. An invitation has also been extended from Norway to hold the next World Assembly there.

The Finnish National Committee has also decided to publish the theses from Minneapolis in Finnish and to continue financial aid to the Lutheran minority churches.

#### Helsinki (Helsingfors) Bible School Grows Rapidly.

Four years ago the deaconess Kerttu Vainikainen started a Bible School in Helsinki (Helsingfors) after she had herself experienced a conversion in her view of the Bible. She began with room for 20 pupils, but the number has increased rapidly and last year it was over 800. The school now has its own rooms and also trains evangelists and teachers for other bible schools.

#### Group Interests Should Give Way to the General Welfare.

Due to the unrest caused by the government crisis the Christian weekly "Församlingsbladet" which is published in the Swedish language made a strong appeal last month to all politicians that they let group interests give way to the general welfare. The paper writes that Finnish democracy has entered a crisis because group interests

involved in the form of major gifts. In 1957 amounts in all have received  
of collection, and the amount has been given in all 1957 amounts;  
which means that on an average every child gets in 1957 the same  
amount as the collection.

In accordance with Swedish law, the Swedish Red Cross has  
the right of the collection.

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have been drawn to the front in a way inconsistent with the fundamental principles of democracy, and that the result can be felt in politics as well as in economics and morals.

The paper suggests as a means of re-establishing the people's confidence in the government and the parliament that a clever and respected and not party-bound Minister of State be placed at the head of a number of capable men who can form an efficient government and create a much needed feeling of security among the people. But this presupposes that the welfare of the whole nation be placed before the interests of the group.

## NORWAY

### Well-Known Norwegian Churchman Wants Church and State Separated.

Mr. Carl Fr. Wisløff, one of the best known figures in the Norwegian Lutheran National Church and one who is closely connected with Home Missions, recently gave a lecture on "Tolerance in State and Church" in which he advocated the separation of Church and State.

As his motivation Mr. Wisløff points out that the State no longer recognizes the Church as a confessional church, but maintains that those who hold office in the Church should have the full right to say the opposite of what the Church's confession says. As the most important instance he cites the decision of the Church Ministry in the so-called "Schjelderup Case" in 1954 from which it was made clear that Bishop Kr. Schjelderup, Hamar, could not be said to have broken with the Confession by denying the doctrine of perdition as being eternal torment. Mr. Wisløff also refers to the section about the church in the draft for a cultural programme published last year by the government party, the Social Democrats. Here the decision in the Schjelderup case is cited as an instance of the fact that a State Church can guarantee tolerance and make room for divergent views. Mr. Wisløff feels that the time for a State Church is past, and urges that efforts be made to prepare the way for a Church independent of the State, a real confessional Church.

The speech has attracted a good deal of attention, but although Mr. Wisløff has found support from many quarters in his assertion that the Church should be a confessional church, there are many who do not agree with him that the time has now come to break with the State.

At their meeting in Oslo in the middle of October the "Brotherhood of Clergymen Loyal to the Confession" passed a resolution in which they characterize the view of Christianity expressed by Bishop Schjelderup as being "in conflict on essential points with the Scriptures and the Confession", and as to the decision in the Schjelderup Case it is stated in the resolution that "it is a violation of our Church as a confessional Church seeing that the decision may be considered a legalization of a doctrine that on a decisive point contradicts the plain words of Jesus".



### Voluntary Church Convention Repudiates Bishop Schjelderup.

At the voluntary church convention which was held in Oslo from the 29th - 31st of October a resolution was passed with 108 votes against 18 stating that the Norwegian Church must hold fast to its confession and bow to the words of our Lord. Even though the divergent opinions of a clergyman or a bishop may not lead to the demand that he resigns, this does not mean that the divergence has been accepted as legitimate church doctrine. The resolution stresses the fact that all church work must be founded upon the Word of God and the Confession. It is further stated that as to practical co-operation with such a man as Bishop Schjelderup everyone must obey their own conscience. 18 participants in the church convention, which consists of in all 168 delegates, voted for a resolution affirming briefly that the Church is and must remain a confessional Church, whereas 10 participants felt that the convention should not make any statement.

The final resolution is along the general lines drawn up by Bishop Johs. Smemo in his speech at the opening of the voluntary church convention. He maintained here that the National Church must be broad enough to embrace people with divergent opinions on less essential points such as Bishop Schjelderup's, but that this did not prevent the Church from still being and continuing to be a confessional Church.

Bishop Schjelderup explained his position at the convention. He fully recognizes a perdition, but does not believe that this consists in eternal torments in hell. The Bishop asked whether the resolution was the expression of a wish that he should resign his office, but Bishop Smemo and others replied that the resolution was not to be understood in this way.

Several of the clergymen in Bishop Schjelderup's diocese declared that they value him highly both as a man and as a Christian although they disagree with him in matters of doctrine.

### 967 Norwegian Missionaries in Active Service.

It appears from a recently published survey that last year the Norwegian missionary societies had in all 967 missionaries in active service as against 897 the year before. 325 of the missionaries were working under the Norwegian Mission Society and 226 under the Norwegian Lutheran Mission.

There are in all 17 mission organizations in Norway and their total income through gifts amounts to about 16.9 million Norwegian Crowns, which is 1.3 million Crowns more than the previous year. The Norwegian Mission Society received about 6.4 million Crowns of this sum and the Norwegian Lutheran Mission 4.6 million Crowns.

### Two Laws Brought Up for Revision.

A new draft for a law against pornography has recently been sent by the Ministry of Justice to a number of organizations and individuals asking for their opinions before the bill is to be laid before Stortinget (Parliament). The draft which has been made by the Committee for the Reform of the Criminal Code will mean a tightening up of previous legislation, and in the notes it is main-



tained that literature and art cannot be expected from the regulations of the law. - The Christian daily in Oslo "Vårt Land" has protested against the fact that the draft has not been sent to any church authorities for their opinion.

In the near future the Act regarding the position of the Free Churches, the so-called "Dissenter Act" is to be taken up for revision. The Free Church Council has repeatedly demanded a revision of the Act, and among the alterations desired by the Free Churches are for instance: the name "dissenter" should be abolished, the right of dissenters to teach religion in the public schools should be reconsidered, tax relief for dissenters (in respect of church taxes) should be extended, and finally the rules governing withdrawal from the National Church should be revised.

The committee appointed by the Minister of State to work on the revision of this Act includes members of the National Church as well as of the Free Churches.

#### Big Evangelizing Campaigns in Many Places in Norway.

October and November have been the big months for evangelizing campaigns in various parts of Norway. From the 13th - 20th October a campaign was made in Trondheim and the surrounding country with a good deal of success and a large number of young people taking part. The campaign will continue with three evening meetings a week for the present, and the visiting service which prepared the way for the campaign will continue as such laymen-visits in the homes have proved to be of great importance.

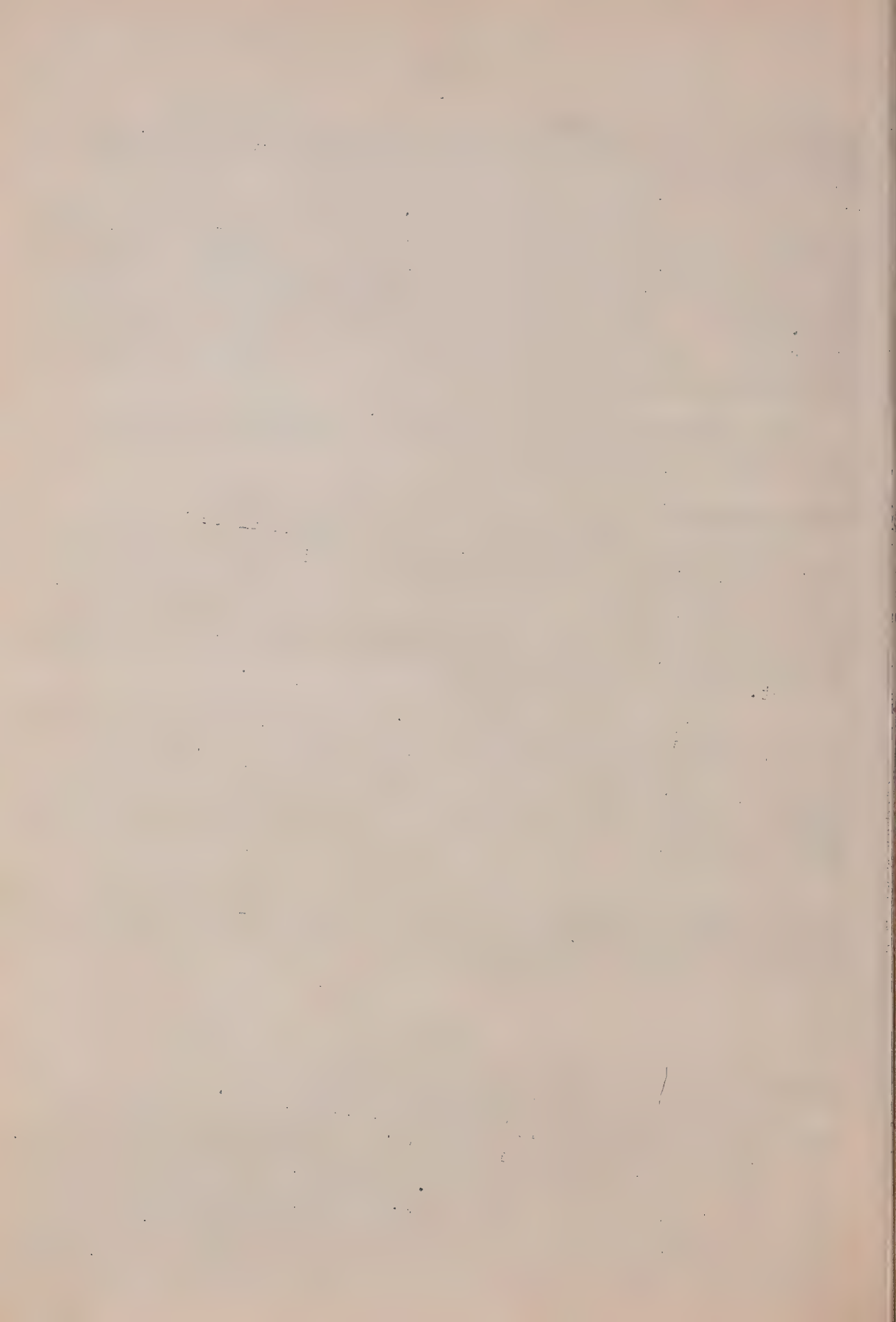
In the same week an evangelizing campaign took place in Bergen and its neighbourhood prepared by no less than 1.200 laymen who have been out with personal invitations. 210 meetings in all were held during the campaign week, and 31 speakers as well as 100 choirs, orchestras, and soloists assisted at the meetings. A special baby-sitting committee saw to it that there were free baby-sitters available to parents who would otherwise not have been able to take part in the meetings.

Finally, during the week 27th October - 3rd November other evangelizing campaigns have taken place in Ålesund and a number of other deaneries in south Norway. Later on Arendal, Tunsberg, Skien, Hamar and other districts will follow suit.

#### SWEDEN

#### Continued Debate on Women Pastors in Sweden.

The Swedish Church Synod's rejection of the bill suggesting that women be permitted to hold office in the Swedish Lutheran National Church (see CN No. 31) was - as had been expected - not the final word in the matter. The decision evoked a storm of heated comments in the Swedish press, and within the Church too the discussion of the matter is being eagerly continued. Several of the large newspapers express the opinion that the decision has seriously widened the gap between the Church and the people. It is pointed out that the voting likewise showed up a gap between the laymen and



the clergy within the Church, as over half of the laymen represented at the Synod voted for women pastors whereas all the clergy with one exception voted against. The liberal daily "Morgon-Bladet" asks whether the Church in making this decision has not committed yet another grave historic error and it predicts great difficulties for the Church externally as well as internally. "Stockholms Tidningen" writes that the Synod's decision is "certainly one of the most dangerous adventures of the Lutheran National Church since the Reformation". The paper demands that an effort be made to make the next Church Synod, which is to be held two years from now, more representative, and should it even then prove impossible to win a majority for women pastors, the relations between State and Church will have to be reconsidered, and the individual will have to reconsider his membership in the National Church.

In his closing speech on the last day of the Church Synod Archbishop Brilioth said among other things: "We have felt it a heavy responsibility. - He who knows in his heart that he has followed the voice of his conscience need not fear the judgments that will be passed on him. But we must not underestimate the reaction of various groups in our people, of which reaction we have already seen so many samples. Nor can we haughtily disdain the thoughts and opinions of our brothers and sisters. It cannot be denied that probably no meeting of ours has been subjected to more violent criticism. We have in truth good reason to test ourselves anew and ask whether we have correctly interpreted the words of Scripture and correctly estimated the situation in the people in the midst of which we have been set to serve."

Several papers and prominent persons within the Church point out that the majority's opposition to women pastors was not founded in Scripture, but in the disagreement within the Church as to whether certain New Testament sayings should or should not be considered binding for the Church for all time. The weekly papers "Vår Kyrka" and "Svensk Kyrkotidning" call for a profound objective debate on the view of Scripture and on the Christian view of social life, and the "Morgon-Bladet" takes its stand on much the same lines.

According to information from the Bishop in Stockholm, the Rt. Rev. Helge Ljungberg, the bishop's conference will discuss the question this month and send a statement to the World Council of Churches and the Lutheran World Federation. This step must be seen in connection with the wish of the majority at the Church Synod to have the question of women pastors considered from an ecumenical point of view.

The number of withdrawals from the National Church as a protest against the decision of the Church Synod has not been as large as was expected in some quarters. Probably less than 1.000 for the entire country. But among these have been several prominent women.

In the weekly paper published by the Mission Covenant Church of Sweden Mr. Erland Sundström (editor) has pointed out that the Mission Covenant Church is the only Lutheran Free Church and must hence be the natural home for those who have withdrawn from the National Church. He asks whether the time has not now come to unite two current movements: a more profound understanding of the Church within the Mission Covenant Church, and the movement towards a new free church of those who have found the position of the Lutheran National Church untenable.



16 women's organizations, among which are the YWCA and the Co-operative Committee of Christian Women, have in a joint appeal deplored the decision of the Church Synod and declared that they will continue to work for a positive solution of the problem.

#### Swedish Pastors No Longer Bound to One Diocese.

Among the many resolutions passed at the Church Synod the following are some of the most important:

The Church Synod approved a new law regarding the election of pastors. According to this pastors will no longer be constrained always to serve in the same diocese. In future - apart from the first five years of their service - they will be able to seek office in any of the country's dioceses.

A motion to give laymen the right to assist in administering communion was rejected.

The Church Synod sent an appeal to the government asking for the re-establishment of Kalmar diocese which was dissolved in 1915 and joined with Växjö diocese.

The draft of a new Burial Law, mentioned in CN No. 29, was approved by the Church Synod. This means that the buildings of the National Church may "in a generous spirit" be opened for funerals that do not follow the ritual of the National Church, for Free Church burials as well as non-religious burials. And finally this law permits that the ashes of deceased persons may by special desire be strewn out, but only where part of the cemetery is reserved for such purposes.

The Church Synod approved that laymen should be permitted to read lessons at divine service where the pastor or the consistory desire this.

The suggestion made by the Swedish bishops' conference regarding the establishment of a special laymen's post within the Church, especially for women (see CN No. 4) was handed over to the Synod's deliberative committee to be further considered before the next Church Synod.

#### Union of Laymen Will Defend The Religious Inheritance from the Reformation.

Motivated by the Church Synod's rejection of women pastors "Sweden's Evangelical Laymen's Union" has been formed with the purpose of "defending our Lutheran religious inheritance from the Reformation in modern times and disseminating information on the spreading Catholic and other related infiltrations within as well as outside the Swedish Church". Chairman of the provisional board is the former mayor of Jönköping Mr. Oscar Dahlbäck.

#### 1534 Swedish Missionaries in Active Service.

The Swedish Mission Council's statistics for 1956 show that in all 1.534 Swedish missionaries were in active service, of whom 409 were supported by the Pentecostal Mission, 256 by the Mission Covenant Church of Sweden, and 236 by the official mission society of the Lutheran National Church. On all mission fields 21.727 people were



baptized last year after having received instruction, and 8.555 children were baptized. The members of church members entitled to receive communion on the mission fields was 265.334. 2.002 schools and institutes of higher education with 165.716 pupils are in operation, and last year 40.638 patients were treated at 30 hospitals besides 459.328 persons who were treated at 120 polyclinics. The total expenditure amounts to 26.878.782 Sw.Crowns, 18.910.357 Crowns of which were collected in Sweden, while the remainder represents income on the mission fields.

#### Several Large Stockholm Firms Introduce Morning-Prayers.

A new feature of Stockholm business-life is that several large firms have introduced morning-prayers once a week. Participation is of course voluntary for the employees. The prayers have been conducted by pastors from the City churches, and attendance has been good. "We like the morning-prayers and are grateful for them", says the manager of one of the large firms, "they have become a gathering point that means something to our solidarity with the Church and our contact with our comrades."

#### News in Brief.

- The Swedish Baptist Society's Mission Board has passed two resolutions against racial discrimination and the testing of atomic weapons.

- Dean Oscar Rundblom, Västerås, will leave around New Year for the Soviet Union on invitation from the Russian Orthodox Church. He will study the conditions of the Russian Church and collect material for a thesis on World Communism and Christianity.

